

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 23rd December 2018

Happy Christmas

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh. The IRTS would like to take this opportunity to wish all amateur radio operators and SWL's a very Happy Christmas.

Counties Contest

The best supported IRTS Contest is the 80 metres Counties Contest on New Year's Day, which runs from 15:00 to 17:00 UTC. There are SSB only and SSB/CW mixed mode sections for both fixed and portable stations. Multipliers are the 32 EI and GI counties as well as overseas DXCC entities. See www.irts.ie/contests for the full rules which include permitted frequency ranges.

CHANGE of DATE for Next IRTS Committee Meeting

A reminder. Notice to members from Robert EI5KH Hon. Secretary IRTS.

Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances, the date of the next IRTS Committee meeting has been changed to 19th January 2019. The venue remains as planned, Maldron Hotel Portlaoise.

This is a change from the date published in the current edition of Echo Ireland, as the decision was taken after publication and distribution.

The dates for the next 2 meetings are 19th January Portlaoise and 2nd March Athlone.

YOTA

December is YOTA (youngsters in the air) month and several YOTA callsigns are active around the world. EI0YOTA is also active and is available to any licenced amateur or club who would like to use it. For further details regarding available usage slots please contact Brian EI8IU.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

A reminder that there will be no December meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group. Their next meeting will be on Monday the 28th January 2019 in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford at 8.00 p.m. sharp. New members or anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio or the group are as always very welcome to attend.

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group would like to take this opportunity to wish all their radio friends and their families in Ireland and around the world a very happy and peaceful Christmas 2018. The Group hopes you all have a wonderful time and that Santa is good to you. They would also like to extend every good wish to you all for the new year ahead. Hopefully 2019 brings you all good health, good wealth and plenty of new DXCC's.

For anyone who wishes to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and their activities you can drop them an email to "info /at/ searg /dot/ ie" or please feel free to come along to any of their meetings. You can check out their website www.searg.ie and you can also join them on Facebook and follow them on Twitter.

South Dublin Radio Club

SDR will return to normal meeting schedule on January 8th 2019. The club would like to wish everyone a happy holidays.

EI100MCV, Last Chance to Operate

December 31st is fast approaching and the National Maritime Museum of Ireland Radio Club would like to invite EI licence holders to operate Special Event Call Sign EI100MCV before the licence expires. This commemorates the centenary of the sinking, by torpedo, of RMS Leinster in the final days of World War 1, resulting in the largest loss of life in the Irish Sea.

Any EI licensed operator can operate the call from their own QTH between now and Dec 31st. Anyone wishing to do so should contact Dave O'Connor EI6AL for further information.

Those who have already used the call can still use the Google doc. form to register their desired Date, Time and Mode.

Logs should be forwarded in ADI format to Dave O'Connor EI6AL.

DX News

Harry JG7PSJ will be back on Ogasawara Island until 2nd January. He is reactivating his JD1BMH callsign. Ogasawara counts as a separate entity for DXCC purposes. QSL to his home call.

YL operator Chie 7L3PFH will be QRV from Saipan in the Mariana Islands as KH0TG from 26th December – 1st January. She will be on 160 – 20m CW and SSB. QSL manager is JL1UTS.

Daniel VK4AFU will be operating from Vanuatu using the callsign YJ0AFU from 25th December – 8th January. He will use 160 – 6m on CW, SSB and FT8.

Philippe F6OBD will sign FK/F6OBD until 20th February on HF using wire antennas. New Caledonia has the IOTA reference OC-032. QSL via the bureau to his home call.

Roland F8EN is back in Libreville, Gabon until mid-March. He will use his TR8CR callsign on 40 – 17m on CW and SSB. QSL manager is F6AJA.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Mark EI6HPB on 086 355 2370.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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